

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-22 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 4-15, 17-18 and 22 have been amended. Claims 16 and 21 have been canceled without disclaiming their subject matter. Claims 23 and 24 which were formerly claims 1 and 2 have been reinstated to depend from claim 1 as amended.

I. Claims Rejections – 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 5-10, 14 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ichimura *et al.*, U.S. Patent Number 6,337,167. Claims 1 and 4-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 05-281761. Claims 1, 6-9, 11, 14 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 10-161329.

Claims 12-13 and 15-20 were objected to as being a dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

1. Claims 1, 4-11, 14, 17, 23 and 24

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the feature of claim 16 which was objected to as being dependent, and deleted “selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted triphenylamine, phenylenediamine, benzidine, and a fused cyclic system.” Claim 1 has been further amended to recite the general feature of the photoluminescence quenching device without narrowing the scope of claim 1. Claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 1 rather than

claim 16 the feature of which has been incorporated into claim 1 by this amendment. Claims 23 and 24 which were formerly claims 2 and 3 have been reinstated as dependent claims which depend from the amended claim 1.

As admitted by the examiner, the prior art does not provide for a photoluminescence quenching device, which generates photoluminescent light by using exterior light and is capable of auto-emitting photoluminescent light when light is sparse or absent, comprising the recited compounds.

Since the subject matter of claim 16 regarded as being patentable by the examiner is incorporated in claim 1, claim 1 and its dependent claims 4-11, 14, 17, 23 and 24 are patentable.

Withdrawal of the rejection and the objection is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 12 and 13

The examiner stated that claims 12 and 13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

3. Claim 15

The examiner stated that claim 15 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 15 has been amended by incorporating the feature of claim 1 rather than claim 14. Since the feature of claim 15 includes allowable subject matter, the independent claim 15 as amended is patentable.

4. Claims 18-20

Claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, claim 18 and its dependent claims 19 and 20 are patentable.

5. Claim 22

Claim 22 is directed to a photoluminescence quenching device.

Ichimura '167 does not disclose that the compounds represented by general Formula (I) can be used in a photoluminescence quenching device. Since Ichimura '167 does not disclose recognize the property recited in "said chemical compound has a readily displaceable electron, a dipole character is present only in the excited state, and said chemical compound is capable of emitting photoluminescent radiation" even if the examiner can show that this recited property is inherent in the compounds represented by general Formula (I), there is no suggestion or motivation to use the Ichimura '167 compound in a photoluminescent quenching device.

In addition, claim 22 as amended recites the feature of the photoluminescence quenching device: "the photoluminescent quenching device generates photoluminescent light by using

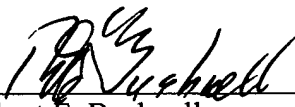
exterior light and is capable of auto-emitting photoluminescent light when light is sparse or absent." This feature is not shown in the organic electroluminescence device of Ichimura '167.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Fee of \$600.00 is incurred by adding three (3) independent claims in excess of three (3) independent claims. Applicant's check drawn to the order of Commissioner accompanies this Amendment. Should the check become lost, be deficient in payment, or should other fees be incurred, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of such fees.

In view of the above, all claims are submitted to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition to be passed to issue. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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